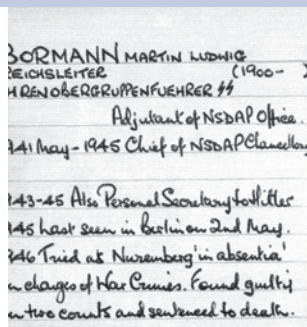


Testaments to the Holocaust

From The Wiener Library, London

An online, searchable archive of primary source documents for historical research



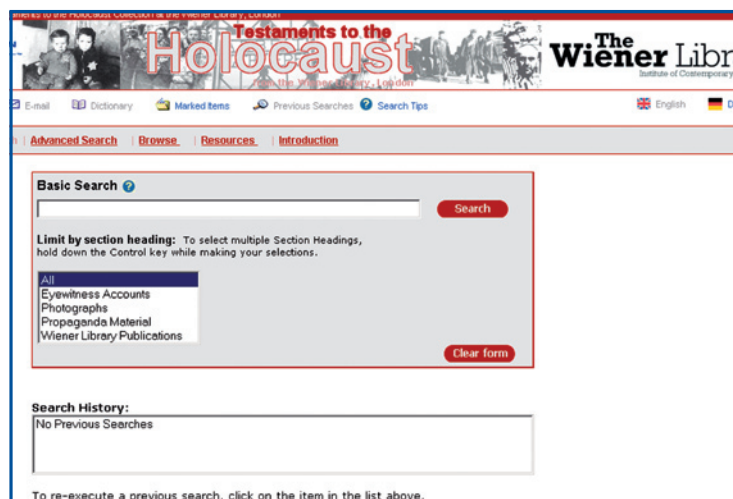
The Wiener Library is the oldest institution in the world established for the task of documenting the Nazi regime and its crimes against the Jewish people. For decades, the library's holdings of rare manuscripts and images were limited to patrons who could visit the institution. Now these remarkable primary-source documents are available for the first time in an online format. Thomson Gale presents *Testaments to the Holocaust*, a digitised, searchable full-text and image resource. Invaluable for academic use, *Testaments to the Holocaust* provides the basis for studying Nazi Germany and its crimes from many perspectives, offering the raw materials that allow researchers to draw their own conclusions. It builds a history of the period through people's testimonies, family narratives and the documents of the activities of the Nazi regime. Complemented by appropriate secondary literature, this collection delivers outstanding opportunities to gain insights into a dark, but significant event of human history.

Wiener Library Publications

These publications, spanning the 1930s through to the mid 1960s, report on events in Europe as they were unfolding. The library's early material testifies to Jewish efforts to resist the Nazi onslaught. Post-war publications document the emergence of Holocaust-related issues as topics of academic discourse. *The Wiener Library Bulletin*, in particular, remains an invaluable source of information on virtually all aspects of Nazi Germany and the Holocaust.

FEATURES:

- 1,200 eyewitness accounts
- 4,000 rare photographs
- Approximately 450 books
- English and German interfaces
- Document languages (German 75%, English 20%, French 3%)
- Original Nazi propaganda materials
- Accounts gathered in the weeks and months after the November pogrom of 1938
- Accounts assembled after 1955 (interviews, letters, documents and especially written accounts)
- Wiener Library publications covering a time span from the early 1930s to the mid 1960s
- Early material testifying to Jewish resistance efforts
- Post-war publications documenting the emergence of Holocaust-related issues as topics of academic discourse



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EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS:

From the late 1930s through the 1950s, many Holocaust survivors preferred not to discuss the terrors they had so recently endured. The group whose experiences are documented in *Testaments to the Holocaust* were the exception. Their words hold special credence given the freshness of their memories. These interviews are not influenced by modern-day attitudes. Indeed, the words "Holocaust" and "Shoah" are not found in the collection, as the terms were not in use at that time. Researchers will find examples of how irony and grim humour were interspersed among the interviews - as a way for witnesses to cope with the task of putting unspeakable horrors into words. Such descriptions add emotional impact to the historical significance of this archive.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Digitised archival photos chronicle the life of Central European Jews before the Nazi takeover. These are followed by photos of life in Weimar Germany, illustrating periods of civil unrest and poverty. Other images show Nazi election campaigns, public appearances of Hitler and more. Of special importance are graphic photos detailing the Nazi persecution of Jews. Visual evidence of death squads, Jewish ghettos and, finally, concentration camps are offered for historical elucidation.

PROPAGANDA MATERIALS:

The documents gathered here demonstrate the range of Nazi propaganda. Illustrated books and pamphlets offer examples of viewpoints favourable to Nazis and hostile to their political and "racial" enemies. Calendars produced by Nazi organisations show the regime's overriding concern with propaganda. Also included is *Sigilla Veri*, a rare encyclopedia of anti-Semitism.

This document was available only from the publisher; those obtaining a copy were required to sign a declaration attesting that they were not of Jewish descent. Propaganda pertaining to the Hitler Youth is also included in this collection, as are songbooks with lyrics extolling the glories of the Third Reich.

THEMATIC ESSAYS:

Essays by leading scholars:

- 'Introduction', Ben Barkow, General Editor & Director of the Wiener Library, London
- 'Prisons, ghettos, camps: Jews in captivity under the Third Reich', Dr Nikolaus Wachsmann, Birkbeck College, University of London
- 'The Origins of the Holocaust', Professor Dan Stone, Royal Holloway College, University of London

SEARCH FUNCTIONALITY:

Basic keyword search

Advanced search by:

- Author
- Description
- Document number
- Document type
- Language (75% German, 20% English, 5% combined/other),
- Photographic subject
- Photographic location
- Publisher
- Titles and headings

Browse 4 available indexes

Search-term highlighting

Fuzzy search

Limit by date

Limit by section heading

- Eyewitness accounts
- Photographs
- Propaganda material
- Wiener Library publications
- Biographical Card Index

Testaments to the Holocaust is an essential tool for research into Nazi Germany and 20th century Jewish and Holocaust studies.

FREE TRIAL - For more information or to request a free trial for this unique collection please contact our Primary Source Microfilm and Special Sales Representative, Katri Russick, at katri.russick@thomson.com